THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) As per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the Salem Advocates Bar Association vs. Union of India, the Government of India had constituted a Task Force to examine the feasibility of Judicial impact in India, under the Chairmanship of Shri Justice M. Jagannadha Rao, Retired Judge of the Supreme Court. The Task Force submitted its report on 15th June, 2008. The Central Government has sought the views of all the State Governments and all the High Courts on this report.

Amendment to Hindu Succession Act

229. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring amendment to Hindu Succession Act to the effect that sons and daughters have equal share in the assets created by the father/parents in case of son's/sons' inheriting father's/mother's business of father/mother's employment or getting his job by virtue of his father/mother's employment in a factory etc., as the sons are getting double benefits of both the employment and assets now;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the same is proposed to be brought before the Parliament; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The Hindu Succession Act was amended by the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005 to provide for the equal share to a coparcener daughter in a joint Hindu property. At present there is no other proposal under consideration for amending the said Act.

Probe into corruption charges against Judges

230. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Judiciary has failed, so far, to set up a procedure of its own, for probing corruption/allegations against the Judges, as has been done in other countries like USA and Canada;

(b) whether the Prime Minister is reported to have made a statement that there is high corruption in the Judiciary;

(c) if so, whether Government has decided to constitute a National Judicial Commission, so as to allow the common people to file complaints against corrupt Judges; and

(d) if so, by when the proposed NJC, which forms a part of the Judges (Inquiry) Bill, is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) The issue of Judicial Accountability was discussed at the Conference of Chief Justices held in 1990 and no the basis of the broad consensus emerging out of the deliberations, the Chief Justice of India summed up the position as follows: